

the past five years. It has assets of only \$10 million.

Most of the grants have been made to civic, cultural, educational and charitable organizations but several journalism projects have also been beneficiaries. They included:

Scholarships at Ball State University; Bellinger Learning Laboratory at Indiana University school of journalism; Journalism scholarships at the University of Missouri; NPA Foundation activities; American Press Institute.

THE JOHN FREDERICK STEINMAN FOUNDATION THE JAMES HALE STEINMAN FOUNDATION

The two Steinman family foundations, which derive income from the newspaper broadcasting enterprises in Lancaster, Pa., are interested primarily in support of local institutions. A portion of the funds goes to two specific areas: \$1,000 a year for five scholarships for parents and children of employees; and \$1,000 a year for postgraduate work in psychiatry, psychology and social case study.

THE PIEDMONT PUBLISHING CO. FOUNDATION

After becoming a subsidiary of Media General, Piedmont Publishing Co. of Winston-Salem, N.C. has allowed the foundation to be relatively dormant with nominal funds. The main contribution is \$3,000 annually to the University of North Carolina school of journalism. Also, the Winston-Salem State University has received \$1,000 to provide for students who are interested in journalism careers but without an economic commitment.

BINGHAM ENTERPRISES FOUNDATION OF KENTUCKY

Several companies owned by the Bingham family—the Courier-Journal and Louisville Times Company, Standard Insurance Corporation, and WHAS, supply about \$300,000 annually to the foundation. Grants in four out of the five years have exceeded the revenue and this has cut the reserve funds by more than \$250,000. The grants for five years amounted to \$1.8 million.

The principal beneficiaries are organizations in Kentucky and part of southern Indiana, the largest gift (\$90,000) being to the United Way. Among aid to journalism have been:

\$10,000 to the American Press Institute building fund;
\$10,000 to the Inter American Press Association scholarship fund;
\$10,000 to the SNPA Foundation;
\$10,000 for a scholarship at the University of Kentucky;
\$10,000 to the Edward R. Murrow Center at Tufts University;

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\$19,500 for the Journalism Series at the University of Kentucky.

NATIONAL PRESS FOUNDATION

Profiting from a benefit world premiere of the film "Twilight's Last Gleaming" on February 6 and with its tax exempt status now granted, the two-year-old National Press Foundation is beginning an active 1977.

"Twilight's Last Gleaming"—a psychological drama involving nuclear blackmail—centers on the public's right to know and the premiere at Washington's Kennedy Center will benefit the Foundation by \$60,000, if Foundation president Robert Ames Alden's hopes are borne out.

"In the past," Alden told E&P, "we have been working with funds totaling no more than \$10,000.

(National Press Foundation, Inc. was established in 1975 as an organization to foster professionalism in the practice of journalism.

One of the major parts of the program is the awarding of scholarships for journalists who wish to engage in advanced study, do research, or undertake full time creative writing.

Overwriting the awards program of the National Press Club. This includes the prestigious Fourth Estate Award which has been presented to Walter Cronkite, James Reston, Richard Strout and John S. Knight, and the Consumer Reporting awards.

The Foundation embraces seven funds altogether: awards, scholarships, a professional fund, publications fund, archives fund, library fund, and—as a backup fund for all these—a general fund. In the past gifts to a designated fund have been encouraged and, in November, the National Press Club sponsored a book and author night to benefit the library fund.

Early in 1976, the Foundation published a report on the White House and the press that had been compiled by the Professional Relations Committee of the National Press Club.

Offices of the National Press Foundation are at Suite 1380 of the National Press Building, Washington, D.C. 20045. Associated with President Ames in directing the foundation is Executive Director William M. Blair of the Washington Bureau of the New York Times.

Teltronics Ltd. accused of advertising fraud by PO

Mail to Teltronics, Ltd., Des Plaines, Ill., a mail-order firm advertising inexpensive digital watches, is being held by the U.S. Postal Service under a temporary restraining order issued by the U. S. District Court of the Northern District of Illinois.

Teltronics, Ltd. had advertised L.E.D. digital watches for \$16.95 in Sunday magazine supplement, *Parade*, and college newspapers, promising that orders received by December 15 would be delivered before Christmas. A two-watch order was encouraged with a bonus of a free pocket calculator (E&P, January 15).

Instead, persons who ordered received nothing. Losses generated by this scheme are estimated by the Illinois State Attorney General's Office at between \$1.8 and \$2 million, although \$1.2 million of it is in various bank accounts and was reported to have been seized by authorities. Information also indicates that the owner of Teltronics has fled the country, and transferred \$800,000 to banks in Mexico.

As a result of a Postal Inspection Service investigation, the Consumer Protection Office of the Postal Law Department

filed a formal complaint accusing Teltronics with conducting a false advertising scheme through the mail. Postal inspectors found that Teltronics was not filling the orders and immediately reported these findings to the Postal Service Law Department and the U.S. Attorney for possible administrative and criminal action.

Over 1,000 complaints directed to various government and private agencies have been received. Those wishing to complain in the future should write to the Illinois Attorney General, Consumer Fraud Division, 134 N. LaSalle Street, Chicago, Ill., 60602, and mark on the outside of the envelope: Teltronics. This action is important to consumers because the Illinois Attorney General has filed a civil suit to assist victims of the Teltronics scheme in getting some of their money back.

Attendance record

Columbia (S.C.) Newspapers Inc. broke all attendance records when they sponsored the U.S. Armed Forces Bicentennial Band and Chorus. Lt. Col. Thurston, commander of the group, said it was the largest single group the band had performed for in the 373 performances it has given in 262 cities. The band has been on tour for two years, traveling throughout all of the 50 states, Mexico and Canada.